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ROBERT STEERE.

Robert Steere was born in Laurens, Otsego county, New York, December 27, 1833. He was educated in the schools of his native town. Arriving at young manhood, he took Horace Greely's advice, "Go West, young man," and went to St. Paul, Minnesota, then a small town on the Western frontier. From there he drifted to Omaha, where he engaged in business.

In 1859, he with seven others fitted out an ox team and wagon and joining an emigrant train, crossed the plains to California. After a long and toilsome journey they arrived in Placerville. Mr. Steere's entire capital on his arrival in the Golden State was ten cents, the smallest coin in circulation then in California. He invested his ten cents in a sheet of paper, an envelope and a postage stamp to write a letter to his mother, and this duty done, he started out to seek employment. By faithfully and honestly performing anything he found to do he earned the confidence of the business men of the town. He located in the town of El Dorado, and in 1862 was appointed internal revenue collector and postmaster. He was also agent for Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express. The travel and freighting to the Washoe silver mines passed through his district, and it was his duty to see that the internal revenue was collected on all merchandise. Over 3000 teams were engaged in hauling goods to the mines. Hard work undermined his health, and he was obliged to resign his position. While in business at El Dorado he married Miss Anna Higgins, his estimable wife, who survives him. For the benefit of his health they took a sea voyage, returning to the Eastern States via Panama.

In 1875, they returned to California and located in Los Angeles, where he engaged in the furniture business. In 1882 he was elected a member of the City Council. He joined the Historical Society of Southern California in 1900, and was a faithful member.

He died April 29, 1910. He was a devout member of the Catholic Church and a faithful attendant of the services at the Cathedral of St. Vibiana, the congregation of which he was one of the oldest members.

He was a quiet, unostentatious citizen, deeply interested in the growth of his adopted city and devoting much of his time and means to charity.
